

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for judging deterioration of a battery are provided, thereby a correct judgement for the deterioration of the battery can be timely carried out so as to replace the battery with another if it is necessary. The apparatus for judging deterioration of a battery that supplies electric power to a load includes: storing means 23c for storing a minimum guaranteed voltage predetermined as a minimum value of a terminal voltage of the battery 13 when a given current flows into the load; voltage drop computing means 23a for computing a voltage drop due to an ohmic resistance and polarization resistance of the battery occurred in response to a discharge of the battery when a given current flows from the battery into the load; first comparing means 23a for comparing the minimum guaranteed voltage stored in the storing means 23c with a first difference value, which is obtained by subtracting the voltage drop computed by the voltage drop computing means 23a from an open circuit voltage that corresponds to a state of charge upon a start of the discharge of the battery; and first deterioration judging means 23a for judging that the battery is deteriorated if the first difference value becomes equal to or smaller than the minimum guaranteed voltage and the state of charge upon the start of the discharge exceeds a first specific value as a result of the comparison by the first comparing means 23a.